

City of Wimberley
 City Hall
 221 Stillwater
 Wimberley, Texas 78676
Minutes of Regular Meeting of City Council
 May 21, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

City Council meeting called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Mayor Steve Thurber.

Mayor Thurber gave the Invocation and Councilmembers led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Steve Thurber, Councilmembers Bob Dussler, Cindy Anderson, Mac McCullough, Pam Showalter, and John White.

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Ferguson and City Secretary Cara McPartland

Citizens Communications

No citizen comments were heard.

1. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of May 7, 2015
- B. Approval of minutes of the Special City Council meeting of May 7, 2015
- C. Approval of minutes of the Special City Council meeting of May 15, 2015
- D. Approval of April 2015 Financial Statements for the City of Wimberley

Councilmember White moved to approve all Consent Agenda items, as presented. Councilmember Showalter seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

2. City Administrator Report

- Status report on the Central Wimberley Wastewater Project

City Administrator Ferguson reported on preparations for the preliminary contested case hearing set for next week in Austin, including scheduling of a special City Council meeting on May 26th to consult with the City's legal counsel.

- Status report on drought conditions in the Wimberley Valley

City Administrator Ferguson reported on projections for heavy rainfall this weekend, recent rainfall/climate statistics, and a significant number of Texas counties that have been removed from the state's drought index, including Hays County. He advised that Wimberley Water Supply Corporation is currently in Stage II of its drought management procedures.

- Status report on sales tax collections for the City of Wimberley

City Administrator Ferguson reported on the May sales tax check (representing March collections) totaling slightly more than \$91,000, up twenty percent (20%) from the same period last year. He advised that research is planned to provide a more detailed report of local sales tax collections and trends.

- Status report on the search for a new city marshal

City Administrator Ferguson reported that interviews are being finalized and an offer of employment is expected by the end of next week.

- Status report on the operation of the Blue Hole Regional Park

City Administrator Ferguson reported that daily operations for the swimming area begin on May 23rd and continue through Labor Day. He noted capacity limits for the swimming area and “Wimberley Wednesday” operating times set aside especially for Wimberley residents within the 78676 zip code. Repair work is underway on trails damaged by recent rains.

In addition, City Administrator Ferguson reported on the installation of street signs in the crosswalks in the Wimberley Square to enhance pedestrian safety.

3. Discussion and Action on Election Related Matters

- A. Consider approval of a resolution of the City Council of the City of Wimberley recognizing the public service rendered by Matt Meeks as Mayor Pro-tem and City Councilmember of the City of Wimberley, Texas. (*Mayor Steve Thurber*)

Mayor Thurber presented the resolution to former Mayor Pro-tem/Councilmember Matt Meeks, who thanked his family, City staff, and past and present Council members for their support during his service on Council. He encouraged Council to listen to citizens and do what is right for Wimberley.

- B. Consider approval of a resolution of the City Council of the City of Wimberley recognizing the public service rendered by Tom Talcott as a City Councilmember of the City of Wimberley, Texas. (*Mayor Steve Thurber*)

Mayor Thurber presented the resolution to former Councilmember Tom Talcott, who thanked past and present City Council members, Wimberley citizens, and City staff for a very enjoyable and positive tenure.

City Administrator Ferguson spoke highly of former Councilmembers Meeks and Talcott, commended their leadership, and thanked them for their team work and commitment.

Councilmember White moved to approve both resolutions (Items 3A and 3B), as presented. Councilmember Showalter seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

- C. Consider approval of an appointment of mayor pro-tempore for a term of one (1) year.
(*Mayor Steve Thurber*)

Councilmember Showalter made a motion to nominate Councilmember Cindy Anderson for appointment to the position of mayor pro-tempore for a term of one (1) year.

Councilmember McCullough made a motion to nominate Councilmember John White for appointment to the position of mayor pro-tempore for a term of one (1) year.

Councilmember Dussler seconded Councilmember Showalter's motion to appoint Councilmember Anderson for the position of mayor pro-tempore. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

4. Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Discuss and consider possible action designating the mayor, mayor pro-tem and city administrator as authorized signatories on the City of Wimberley depository bank accounts. (*City Administrator*)

Councilmember Showalter moved to approve designating the mayor, mayor pro-tem, and city administrator as signatories, as recommended by City Administrator Ferguson. Councilmember Anderson seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

- B. Discuss and consider possible action setting a date for a workshop to establish City Council goals and priorities. (*City Administrator*)

City Administrator Ferguson recommended late June as a possible workshop timeframe.

Discussion addressed the projected completion date for compilation of the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee's survey results, preference for a post-July 4th workshop, and possible locations to maximize accessibility.

Mayor Thurber recommended scheduling the workshop for July 11, 2015 at the Wimberley Community Center.

Councilmember Showalter moved to approve scheduling the goals and priorities workshop for July 11, 2015 at the Wimberley Community Center. Councilmember Anderson seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

- C. Discuss and consider possible action approving the calendar for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2016 City of Wimberley Budget. (*City Administrator*)

City Administrator Ferguson reviewed key calendar items and noted that certain dates are tentative and subject to change, if needed.

Councilmember White moved to approve the calendar, as presented. Councilmember Showalter seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

- D. Discuss and consider possible action cancelling the Regular City Council meeting of Thursday, June 4, 2015. (*Mayor Steve Thurber*)

Mayor Thurber advised that there are no pending items (such as zoning cases) on the agenda that might inconvenience the public, if such items were continued until a later date. He recommended that the June 4th meeting be cancelled to avoid scheduling conflict(s).

Councilmember White moved to cancel the June 4, 2015 Regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Dussler seconded.

Councilmember McCullough did not favor cancelling the June 4th meeting.

Motion carried on a vote of 4-1. Councilmember McCullough voted against.

- E. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the position of city marshal. (*Place Three Councilmember Mac McCullough*)

Councilmember McCullough advised that he did not favor continuing the position of city marshal based on costs and unmet expectations. Given anticipated wastewater-related expenditures, Councilmember McCullough felt that the city marshal position should either be eliminated or held in abeyance for a period of one or two years as a cost-saving measure.

Discussion addressed specific traffic-related expectations that Councilmember McCullough felt were not met; enforcement issues; the ability of Hays County Sheriff's Office personnel to meet the City's law enforcement needs, particularly relating to enforcement of City ordinances; importance of the city marshal's role and presence in the community; Council's prior direction to staff regarding the marshal's focus and responsibilities; and cost-effectiveness of maintaining the city marshal's position.

City Administrator Ferguson spoke on the history and scope of the marshal program; prior Council actions to eliminate and later reinstate the marshal position; interlocal agreements with Hays County Sheriff/Constable Offices; ability of Hays County to continue providing law enforcement to Wimberley due to rapid growth fueling increasing demand for services; and recent traffic control issues. Concerns were expressed about eliminating the marshal position for a second time, which may negatively impact attracting quality applicants, as well the lack of law enforcement visibility and its associated effect on deterrence and compliance.

No action was taken on this item.

5. City Council Reports

- Announcements
- Future Agenda Items

City Administrator Ferguson reminded Council to review information provided at a recent riparian workshop meeting. He requested input from Council members on their interest in participating in the upcoming July 4th Parade (to be held on July 3rd). Brief discussion addressed procedures for placing items on future agendas.

Councilmember Showalter requested an update on the status of the community message sign to be placed at the Wimberley Community Center.

In response to Councilmember Anderson's inquiry on public restroom locks, City Administrator Ferguson advised that the locks are meant to be child-proof and that informational signs can be posted.

Hearing no further announcements or future agenda items, Mayor Thurber called the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment: Council meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Recorded by:


Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 18th of June, 2015.

APPROVED:


Steve Thurber, Mayor

